



## FAIRFAX COUNTY PARK AUTHORITY

12055 Government Center Parkway, Suite 927  
Fairfax, VA 22035-1118



*For Immediate Release*

Judy Pedersen, PIO  
E-mail: [parkmail@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:parkmail@fairfaxcounty.gov)  
Press Inquiries: 703-324-8662

September 21, 2007  
PR-096

# Park Authority Receives Three Awards From VRPS

They say there is no greater compliment than the approval of your peers. That was the case at the recent 2007 Annual Conference of the Virginia Recreation and Park Society (VRPS) held in James City County, VA when the Fairfax County Park Authority (FCPA) received three significant awards recognizing outstanding achievement in programs and products completed in 2006.

The awards represented diverse and unique efforts by the Park Authority including Community Connections which received the Best New Program Award for a county with a population greater than 150,000. Community Connections is a comprehensive outreach and education program aimed at listening to, engaging and building trust with diverse park users. They create awareness of recreational services that are available, increase access to those programs and seek to eliminate cultural and communication barriers.

The Park Authority was also recognized for the Best New Facility Award for a county with a population greater than 150,000. Clemyjontri Park in McLean was selected. The park features a playground designed to provide greater accessibility than a standard playground offers, a carousel and a picnic pavilion. The property for the nationally-acclaimed playground was donated as were the fully-accessible horses on the carousel and other park amenities.

Additionally, the Park Authority's Stewardship education campaign which features a number of brochures, first-person outreach, booklets, and web content received the Best Promotional Effort Specialty Award in a county with a population greater than 150,000. The Park Authority has created a variety of content which focuses on the importance of natural and cultural stewardship. Brochures highlight a variety of topics including invasive plants, wildlife conflicts, fauna found in our parks as well as how residents can make a difference one small step at a time.

VRPS is a private, non-profit professional organization, founded in 1953. Its purpose is to unite all professionals, students, and interested lay persons engaged in the field of recreation, parks and other leisure services in Virginia.

###

703-324-8700 • TTY: 703-803-3354 • ONLINE: [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks) • E-MAIL: [parkmail@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:parkmail@fairfaxcounty.gov)



*Fairfax County is committed to a policy of nondiscrimination in all county programs, services and activities and will provide reasonable accommodations upon request. To request special accommodations, call 703-324-8563 or TTY 703-803-3354. Please allow ten working days in advance of events in order to make the necessary arrangements.*